Nutrition, Hyderabad, covering 40 districts in 25 States have also very clearly shown that there is significant decrease in iodine deficiency disorders as a result of regular consumption of iodated salt. As the problem of iodine deficiency is still prevalent in all States/UTs as a public health problem, there is need of compulsory salt iodisation for all human beings in the country.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Spurious Drugs market in Delhi

†2487. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the medicine wholesale market situated in Delhi has emerged as the biggest market of spurious drugs in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that despite of all Government efforts, even the raids of C.B.I, and Department of Drugs have proved futile to prevent the business of the said spurious drugs;

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to tackle the said situation; and

(d) if not, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) During the period 2004-05 and 2005-06,138 and 121 samples of drugs respectively were collected from Bhagirath Palace market, out of which test reports in respect of 129 and 69 samples respectively have been received and none of them has been reported spurious.

From this data it cannot be said that the medicine wholesale market situated in Delhi has emerged as the biggest market of spurious drugs in the country.

(b) During 2005-06 (till 13.3.06), there was no joint raid of the officers of department of drugs and the CBI officers.

(c) Following steps have been taken by the Drugs Control Department, NCT of Delhi to tackle the situation:

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(i) One Drugs Inspector has been given the charge of Bhagirath Palace exclusively to ensure continuous surveillance.

(ii) Besides the area Drugs Inspector, the Intelligence cell carries out surprise check/indepth inspection and special inspection programmes with a view to detect spurious drugs.

(iii) During the period 2004-05 and 2005-06, 229 and 123 special inspections were carried out. During the period 2004-05 and 2005-06, 354 and 2230 survey samples and 76 and 69 specimen samples were collected to have a test check on the quality of drugs moving Bhagirath Palace market. But no sample has been reported spurious.

(iv) Liaison is being maintained with Delhi Police, Crime Branch in particular to get information and or jointly raid the suspected places to detect spurious drugs.

(v) Liaison is established with the reputed dealers/association leaders to gather information regarding doubtful activities if any being carried out in the market.

(d) The question does not arise.

AIDS control measures in Tamil Nadu

2488. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 80 per cent of AIDS cases are confined to only 5 or 6 States such as Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Nagaland and Manipur and the most affected is Tamil Nadu, which accounts to 46 per cent;

(b) if so, whether it will not be prudent to localise these States and confine the major activities of control with all out efforts;

(c) what are the special efforts taken in these States particularly in Tamil Nadu;

(d) what are the allocation of funds and activities under AIDS control programme for the various States for the last three years; and

(e) whether there will be special allocation and extra concentration on Tamil Nadu for tackling the problem?